Denicke, Fritz M.

[Cologne, Germany]

1931

Cologne, January, 12th, 1931.

American Numismatic Society
Broadway & 155th St.
New York. N.Y.

Sirs,

Owing your address to the German General Consulate, 17 Battery Place, New York, I take the liberty of offering you the following four collections of banknotes:

1. Notes of the Reichsbank

This collection contains all the banknotes without any exception which have been edited under the Imperium from 1900-1914, furthermore all the notes of currency printed during the War 1914-1918, the notes of the Republic of the Revolution in 1919 and those numerous and interesting notes of the time when the official German currency - the Mark - suffered that famous and in its terms unequalled depreciation, called the German Inflation rising the nominals from one Mark to 1.000.000.000.000.- Marks and ending by the abandonation of that currency on January, 1st, 1924 by creating the Rentenmark at the rate of 4,20 Rentenmarks equal to one Dollar U.S.A.

I beg to repeat that this collection is to be unique in its completeness and its appearance being all the notes in state of issue ascending in totality to some 120 species.

2. Notes of The German Imperial Railway.

My collection of the notes edited by the above mentioned Company includes likewise all values ever printed e.g. 1.000.000.- Marks to 1.000.000.000.000.- Marks, in totality 18 pieces.

I beg to remark that to this company only from August 1923 until the end of that year the permission of printing notes had been granted.

3. Private currency.

As a curiosity I offer you some notes edited by private companies, as
Maschinenfabrik Sürth, Cologne
Deutsch-Luxemburgische Bergwerks- & Hütten A.-G., Bochum
Fried. Krupp A.G., Essen
August Thyssen-Hütte, Hamborn.
Of course these notes are so seldom that it has to be considered as totally impossible to get a complete collection for they have been given to the labourers and members of administration as payment and therefore their distribution always has been limited to that locality where they had been put into currency.

4. Notes of Towns and Villages

In the years after the Revolution many towns and villages, among them both those of a world-wide renowned reputation and even the less important ones, considered it a ready means to edite notes having been created two

principal kinds of them, ones being limited as to the time of their validity others being unlimited as to this regard.

Then there are notes the authentity of which is documentated by facsimiles of the burgomaster's signature, others bear a hand seal as a legitimacy. Most of them have a rectangular form, existing nevertheless also species in round form.

As a curiosity I beg to mention the case that notes have been edited which are perforated in the centre to be used or in the full value or by one of the two parts which of course represented half of the total value each of them.

The offered collection contains series of some 275 German towns and some 30 Austrian towns with a totality of some 2.500 species.

These notes represent under others vivid testimonials of German History, Local Chronicle, acts of German Historical Personalities, Ruins of famouns Castles, Fabrikation, Industry, Whit, Songs and Poetry etc. being the text written as well in German as in Dialects. I beg to point out to extra-arrangements of German Sea-Ports and Watering Places who edited commemoratioe series of notes e.g. The American Week at Bremen, The German Week at Kiel, Sporting Week at Bad Harzburg, Lay Theatre at Oberammergau, etc. The most interesting species are those edited during plebiscite times.

By the preceding description I tried to give you by some principal explanations an idea of the sort the four collections are representing. If so desired, of course I would serve you by any declaration you may think to be still necessary.

As to the price at which I should be ready to sell you these collections I beg to indicate you

<u>$ U.S.A. 1.000.—</u>

being this price to be understood as for the notes delivered to the hands of the American Consulate at Cologne.

I hereby include some notes as a specimen and beg you to be so kind as to take the International Reply Coupon also inclosed when granting me the favor of the reply.

Looking forward to your kind answer, I beg to remain

yours very truly

Fritz M. Denicke

Fahrbellinstr. 3.
Cologne
Germany
Europe.

Cologne, January, 10th, 1931.

American Association of Museums
Smithsonian Institute

Washington D. C.

Sirs,

Owing your address to the German General Consulate of New York (N.Y.) who also informed me that you are representing the Holding Institute of all the Museums of the United States, I take the liberty of offering you for the Numismatic Section of any American Museum the following four collections of banknotes:

1. Notes of the Reichsbank

This collection contains all the banknotes without any exception which have been edited under the Imperium from 1900-1914, furthermore all the notes of currency printed during the War 1914-1918, the notes of the German Republic edited in the Revolution year 1919, and finally those numerous and interesting notes of the time when the official German currency - the Mark - suffered that famous and in its terms unequalled depreciation called the German Inflation rising the nominals from one Mark to 1.000.000.000.000.- Marks, and ending by the abandonation of that currency on January, 1st, 1924 by creating the Rentenmark at the rate of 4,20 Rentenmarks equal to one Dollar U.S.A.

I beg to repeat that this collection is to be unique in its completeness and its appearance being all the notes in the very state of issue, ascending in

totality to some 120 species.

2. Notes of the German Imperial Railway Cy.

My collection of notes edited by the above mentioned Company includes likewise all values ever printed e.g. 1.000.000.- Marks to 1.000.000.000.000.- Marks in totality 18 species.

I beg to remark that to this company only from August 1923 until the end of that year the permission of printing notes had been granted.

3. Private Notes.

As a curiosity I offer you some notes edited by private companies, as
Maschinenfabrik Suerth, Cologne
Deutsch-Luxemburgische Bergwerks- & Hütten-A.G., Bochum
Fried. Krupp A.-G., Essen
August Thyssen-Hütte, Hamborn.

Of course these notes are so rare ones that it must be considered as totally impossible to get a complete collection, for they have been given to the labourers and members of administration as payment of salary and therefore their distribution always has been limited to that locality where they had been put into currency.

4. Notes of Towns and Villages.

In the years after the Revolution many towns and villages, among them both those of world-wide renowned reputation and even the less important ones, considered it a ready means to edite notes,

notes, having been created two principal kinds of them: ones being limited as to the time of their validity, and others being unlimited as to this regard.

Then there are notes the authentity of which is documentated by facsimiles of the burgomaster's signature, others bear a hand stamp as legitimacy. Most of them have a rectangular form, existing nevertheless also species in round form.

As a remarkable fact I beg to mention the case that notes have been edited which are perforated in the centre to be used or in the full value or by one of the two parts which of course represented half of the total value each of them.

The offered collection contains series of some 275 German towns and some 30 Austrian towns with a totality of some 2500 species

These notes represent vivid testimonials of German History, Local Chronick, Acts of German Historical Personalities of Arts and Politics, Industry, Fabrication, Famous landscapes, Ruins of Famous Castles, Poetry, Songs, Whit etc. being the text or in German or Dialects. I beg to point out to extra-arrangements of German Sea Ports, and Watering-Places e.g. The German-American Week at Bremen, The German Week at Kiel, The Sporting Week at Bad Harzburg, Lay Theatre at Oberammergau, etc. being among them also species edited during plebiscite times.

By the preceding description I tried to give

you by some principal explanations an idea of the sort the four collections are representing.

As to the price at which I should like to sell you these collections I beg to indicate you

$ U.S.A. 1.000.—

being this price to be understood as for the notes delivered to the hands of the American Consulate at Cologne °/Rh.

Finally I beg to remark that I myself did gather these collections I did not sell if I were not in trouble momentaneously.

I hereby include some notes as a specimen and beg you to be so kind as to accept the International Reply Coupon also included when granting me the favor of a reply.

Looking forward to your kind answer I beg to remain

yours very truly

Fritz M. Denicke

Fehrbellinstr. 3.
Cologne °/Rh.
Germany
Europe.

Jan. 24,1931

Mr. Fritz M. Denicke

Koln-Merheim, Iksrh.

Germany

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of your letter of January 12th, and also of the letter of the 10th addressed to the American Association of Museums. Although I can see that you have a fine collection of Germany paper money, we also have here about as fine a collection, and in consequence would not be interested in what you have to offer.

As a matter of fact, we do not know of anyone in this country who would be interested. As you undoubtedly know, a great many collections of this nature were formed in Germany, and many of them have been offered in this country, and quite a number have been sent over here. A few of these collections were bought several years ago, and those who are interested in the subject over here, are all well supplied, and to-day no one here is interested in this paper money. In fact, it is a dead issue.

I am herewith returning to you the two lots of sample paper money which you submitted, and I regret exceedingly that we are not able to be of any assistance.

Very truly yours,

Curator.